



**HOT SPRINGS
CONVENTION & VISITORS
BUREAU**

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)

October 13, 2009

Dear Commissioners:

Here at the Hot Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau, we know a thing or two about what attracts people to our region. Our Hot Springs National Park features thermal waters, rich history and beautiful architecture, but without access to advance broadband connectivity our surrounding community would suffer greatly. This is why your proposal to impose net neutrality regulation on the wireline and wireless broadband networks is so concerning.

It's no secret that the Internet is booming and the wireless marketplace is among the most competitive in the world. When markets are working well, that's when government should step back – not step in. Forward-thinking policy makers would continue the light regulatory approach that has allowed investment in broadband infrastructure to happen in communities big and small.

Citizens of Arkansas and beyond are depending on the Federal Communication Commissioners to rise above the din of "net neutrality" noise and see clearly what this ill-conceived proposal will only hamstring the future of the Internet. Speaking for the people of this area, we need more than hot springs to keep our economy going. We need connectivity. We need investment. We need federal regulators who consider consequences of inserting the government into oversight of the Internet.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Gordon Mahoney, COO Hot Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau